(a) whether Government have received any representation regarding development work in Sector 5, Vasundhara Yojana owned by Mohan Nagar Karmachari Cooperative Housing Society Limited, Ghaziabad;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to protect the interests of members of the society?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Uttar Pradesh Awas Evem Vikas Parishad have received representations dated 25.9.95, 26.7.96 and 13.10.96 from Mohan Nagar Karamchari Cooperative Housing Society Limited. As reported by the State Government, in the said representations the Society has mainly urged the Uttar Pradesh Awas Evem Vikas Parishad for expeditious settlements of the compensation issue with the owners of the land which is being developed by the Parishad for handing over to the Society.

(c) The Uttar Pradesh Awas Evem Vikas Parisahd is stated to have replied to the aforesaid representation of the Society and has advised them to deposit the balance amount against the first instalment payable by them to the Parishad as per the terms and conditions of the agreement executed between Society and the Uttar Pradesh Awas Evem Vikas Parished.

JRY Innovation Funds in Orissa and Andhra Pradesh

626. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated under JRY Innovation, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that large chunks of funds under this scheme have been siphoned off by Orissa and Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the step proposed to be taken to do away with direct financing of such schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) A small portion of JRY resorces i.e. 5% of JRY total funds or 75 crores whichever is less has been kept apart for the implementation of Special & Innovative projects at the National Level. No State-wise allocation has been made.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

Complaints by users of VSAT

627. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased top state:

(a) whether several complaints made by the users of VSAT about its malfunctioning and about non-cooperation and poor maintenance by the National Centre for Software Technology;

(b) if so, what is the general nature of the complaints and what steps are being taken to solve them;

(c) whether it is a fact that the NCST has given away the maintenance sub contract to a private party which does not do its job properly;

(d) if so, what steps would be taken to make a high level enquiry into functioning of the NCST; and

(e) how would relief be given to consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) There have been complaints from time to time from the users of VSAT regarding functioning of VSAT. Two main sources of problem were failure of power supply units and some non-functioning Radio Frequency (RF) units in a specific batch on arrival. Such complaints were/are attended to promptly and faults have since been rectified. Installation, operation and maintenance of VSATs is the responsibility of the Education & Research Network (ERNET) Project of the Department of Electronics.

(c) Contract were given in June, 1996 by National Centre for Software Technology (NCST), on behalf of, and on the direction of Project ERNET of Department of Electronics, for maintenance of VSAT Equipments to a private party namely M/s Hughes Escorts Communications Ltd., New Delhi who are the Indian subsidiary of the principal supplier of the equipment with expertise and nationwide network to undertake the job. These contracts are coming into operation progressively and complaints are being attended to meet the requirement of users.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Problems of Western States

628. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since worked out any comprehensive and well-integrated programme to deal with speical problems of Western States viz. Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, particularly the economic development in the tribal and rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the specific steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PRORGAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (c) The Central Government have not prepared any specific comprehensive and integrated programme to deal with the special problems of the Western States of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned to formulate and implement the development programmes in their States. The States are, however, assisted by the Central Government through Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes including Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) for the economic development in the tribal areas and through poverty Alleviation Programmes like Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rojgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) etc. for rural areas. In addition the Area Development Programmes like Drought Prone Area Programme, Desert Development Programme (DDP), Hill Area Development Programme in the identified areas of all the States including Western States are also implemented with the

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Mega Power Projects in the Country

629. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Mega Power Projects with capacity of over 1000 MW being executed in the country;

(b) the location of those projects, State-wise, and the capacity thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to change their policy with regard to implementation of such mega power projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES: (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) The details of power projects with capacity of